



TNG FISHERIES

The latest information important to T̓silhqot'in fish and fishing activities



We're glad to report continued good news for Chilko Ts'eman (sockeye)!

In late August the run size was estimated to be 700,000, and that number continues to rise as in-season assessment information continues to flow in. The Chilko run is by far the strongest Fraser salmon run in 2021!

Most Chilko Ts'eman have now entered the Chilcotin system, and community members have been steadily fishing and catching at a number of fishing sites throughout the Territory. This prime time to get out and fish is limited.

Chilko Ts'eman continue to be plentiful in the system. However, catching fish has been challenging with low water levels. As water levels continue to drop, fish will be harder to catch. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this limited time, and get out there and fish now!

As reported last week, the current Ts'eman opening is extended to October 1 (see notice on p. 2). Fishing is expected to be more challenging after mid-September, due to both lower water levels and fewer fish in the system. Water levels typically drop around this time of the season, but Chilko Ts'eman are running a bit late this year, which means the peak of the run coincides with lower water levels.

Due to ongoing conservation concerns for Jaš (Chinook), Ts'eman Dalkw'ish (coho), and Tislagh (steelhead), it's requested that they be released back into the river. Dandzex (pink salmon) can be harvested.

TNG Fisheries continues to monitor and assess technical information on the status of Chilko Ts'eman and the fishery. We will follow up with Leadership on post-season communications, and to reflect on this excellent year for Chilko sockeye!

For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy
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SOCKEYE OPENING FURTHER EXTENDED

The T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs declared a temporary opening of T̓silhqot'in Sockeye (Ts'eman) Fisheries to members, which took effect on Thursday, August 19th at 6 p.m. The opening **has further been extended until Friday, October 1st at 6 p.m.**, at which time it will be re-evaluated by T̓silhqot'in Leadership based on updated technical information.

The opening is **strictly for Sockeye (Ts'eman)** in the Lower Chilcotin River to the confluence with the Fraser, and the Chilko River, and **NOT for the Fraser.**

The opening is to allow for sustenance and ceremonial fishing. Take only the Sockeye (Ts'eman) that you need. Any bi-catch of Pink Salmon (Dandzex) can also be harvested.

At this time, **please release** any Chinook (Ja̓s), Steelhead (Tislagh) and Coho (Ts'eman Dalkw'ish) due to continued conservation concerns.

Due to COVID-19, please practice social distancing while fishing.

We will keep communities informed about the state of Chilko Sockeye (Ts'eman) through our weekly in-season communications, and any updates on the fisheries temporary opening will be shared through all available channels.

TAKE ONLY WHAT YOU NEED!

Stay up-to-date on TNG Fisheries: <https://www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries/>



Wrapping up TNG Fisheries In-Season Communications

Thank you to all who participated in our weekly Tsilhqot'in Fisheries Update Zoom Calls!

We held our last call of the season on Wednesday, September 1, and we look forward to further engagement on fisheries in the post-season.

This is our last weekly Tsilhqot'in Fisheries In-Season Fisheries Bulletin, and the fisheries team will now be turning our attention to post-season activities and technical analysis.

Stay tuned for further updates and engagement opportunities later in the year.

IF YOU CATCH A TAGGED FISH:

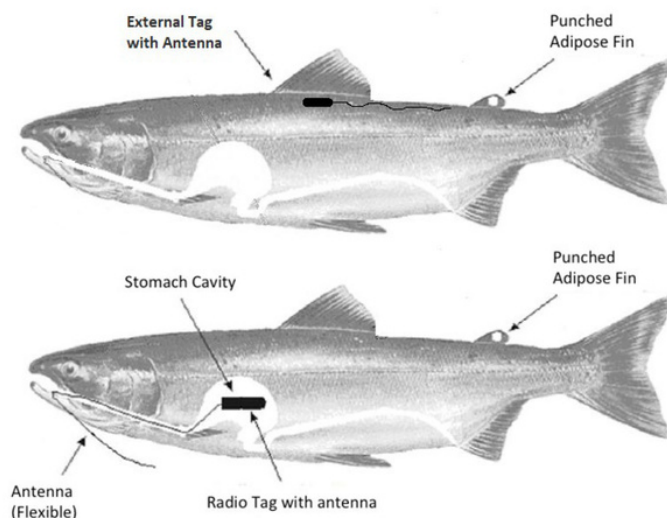
As part of the response to the Big Bar slide, First Nations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Province of BC are working together to tag adult salmon with radio tracking transmitters. These transmitters relay important information to stations along the Fraser River that allow us to evaluate salmon migration success as they travel up the Fraser River and tributaries to their natal streams.

If you catch a tagged fish, please report the tag number along with the date and location of capture to: 2021BigBar@gmail.com

Or you can turn the tags in with the date and location of capture to your catch monitors.

The information will be used to help understand the impacts of the Big Bar landslide and improve our understanding of salmon migration biology.

Radio tracking transmitters are either attached to the back below the dorsal fin or inserted into the stomach cavity.



Thank you / Musi / Kukwstumúlhkacw / K'wuk'wstéyp,
Kukwstéc-kucw / Sechanalyagh / Huy ch q'u

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